

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

I CENTRAL PARK PLAZA • NEW BRITAIN, CONN. 06051
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PETITION 80 Field Review February 25, 1982

Mr. Doocy, Mr. Tait and Christopher Wood met Frank Perotti of Northeast Utilities Service Company to review the section of a transmission line facility involved in a project described in NUSCO's petition to the Council dated February 12, 1982. The petition asserts that no certificate of environmental compatibility and public need is necessary for the project described, as it will have no substantial adverse environmental effect.

The project is said to be necessary to provide adequate clearances over the planned reconstruction of I-86, and NUSCO will enter into a contract with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, which will pay the project costs.

Described as a rebuild of a section of the existing Manchester to Barbour Hill/South Windsor double circuit 115kV tower line, the project entails replacement of three existing 80 foot lattice towers with two lattice towers, 170 and 175 feet tall. The replacement line will follow the same centerline, so a temporary line of structures will be necessary. These are proposed to be placed within the existing right of way to the west of the subject line, which will require some clearing along the approximately 1/2 mile long project area. It appears that much of the same area will be cleared for the highway project, and vegetation will be allowed to revert after the temporary line is removed. This will occur as soon as the tower line work is complete.

The one to two year project, including 6-10 months of actual construction, will require the use of heavy equipment typical to transmission line construction jobs. Existing access roads will be used with minor improvements, and no wetlands will be directly impacted by the tower line work. The nearby Hockanum River will not be forded or directly affected by the proposed project, according to Mr. Perotti, the project engineer.

The new towers will be more than twice as tall as the existing towers, but slightly shorter than the double circuit 345kV lattice towers that are also on this right of way. One of the circuits on these structures is now energized at 115kV, but is scheduled to become part of the Manchester substation to Meekville Junction section of the Docket No. 11 345kV line. This work has been postponed for unreleated reasons, and will not be affected by, or affect, the highway construction project, since the line was originally constructed in contemplation of the highway project. The new towers will be approximately aligned with the larger existing structures. Single steel pole structures are not suitable for

this replacement according to the engineer. An existing 23kV distribution circuit will be removed from the right of way.

Christopher S. Wood Executive Director

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